

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: AFRICAN UPDATE

REF: SECTO 7008

1. HORN OF AFRICA;

A. MILITARY SURVEY TEAM TO SOMALIA.

OUR CHARGE IN MOGADISCIO INFORMED SOMALI OFFICIALS ON
JUNE 11 THAT WE WOULD NOT RPT NOT ALTER TERMS OF
REFERENCE FOR SURVEY TEAM AND THAT IF SOMALI GOVERNMENT
WISHED TO PROCEED WITH TEAM, WE ARE PREPARED TO CONSIDER
THEIR PROPOSALS FOR DATES OF TEAM'S VISIT. WE ARE
NOW AWAITING GSDR RESPONSE. IT IS OUR GUESS THAT WE
WILL HEAR NOTHING FURTHER FROM SIAD ABOUT THE SURVEY
TEAM UNTIL AFTER HIS RETURN FROM HIS TRIP TO EUROPEAN
CAPITALS WHICH STARTS THIS WEEK AND WILL INCLUDE BONN
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AND LONDON AND MAY ALSO INCLUDE PARIS AND ROME.

2. ETHIOPIAN-US RELATIONS:

IN A JUNE 13 PRESS CONFERENCE IN ADDIS ABABA, MENGISTU
MADE A NUMBER OF SERIOUS IF CONVOLUTED ACCUSATIONS
AGAINST THE U.S. HE ALLEGED THAT;

-- "TO REVIVE THE ANTI-ETHIOPIA AND ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY INSURGENCY WAR, THE U.S. HAS DECIDED TO SUPPLY WEAPONS" TO SOMALIA;

-- SOMALI SOLDIERS DISGUISED AS INSURGENTS ARE CARRYING OUT WARFARE IN THE OGADEN;

-- ETHIOPIA WOULD REGARD ANY U.S. ARMS ASSISTANCE TO ETHIOPIA AS "AN INVASION OF ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY BY THE U.S. ARMY;"

-- ACCEPTANCE OF U.S. ARMS "BY THE INVADING REACTIONARY SOMALI FORCES" WOULD BRING ABOUT A BREAK IN U.S.-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS.

MENGISTU SEEMS TO BE SAYING THAT SINCE SOMALI FORCES ARE CURRENTLY INVADING ETHIOPIA IN SURREPTITIOUS FASHION, ANY U.S. ARMS SUPPLIES TO SOMALIA WOULD BRING ABOUT A RUPTURE OF U.S.-ETHIOPIAN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. ETHIOPIAN OFFICIALS HAVE WARNED US IN THE PAST ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY U.S.-SOMALI ARMS RELATIONSHIP. MENGISTU'S JUNE 13 WARNING GOES ONE MAJOR STEP FURTHER BY MAKING ANY U.S.-SOMALI ARMS RELATIONSHIP THE GROUNDS FOR A BREAK IN U.S.-ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS.

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3. SHABA:

FOLLOWING ITEM PROVIDED FOR SENIOR OFFICIALS EVENING OF JUNE 14:

THERE WAS WIDE-SPREAD PRESSURE ON THE ZAIRIANS FOR KEY ECONOMIC REFORMS DURING THE BRUSSELS MEETING WHICH ENDED TODAY. DONOR STATES, THE IBRD, THE IMF AND EEC MADE IT CLEAR THAT MEDIUM AND LONG TERM ASSISTANCE WOULD NOT BE FORTHCOMING FOR ZAIRE WITHOUT THEM. WE AND THE FRENCH HELD OFF ZAIRIAN AND BELGIAN REQUESTS FOR SHORT TERM ASSISTANCE IN THE ABSENCE OF A FOREIGN EXCHANGE BUDGET, WHICH THE ZAIRIANS PROMISED TO PRODUCE SHORTLY. WE MADE NO COMMITMENTS, AND WILL REVIEW THE ZAIRIAN SUBMISSION BEFORE DETERMINING WHETHER FURTHER REFORMS ARE NEEDED BEFORE WE MOVE AHEAD WITH OUR FY-78 ASSISTANCE.

DURING THE SECRETARY'S TALKS IN PARIS, WE UNDERSTAND AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON PRESENTING MOBUTU WITH A DEMARCHE ON REFORMS. A NEW, AGREED SINGLE TEXT IS BEING WORKED OUT AMONG US, THE FRENCH, BRITISH, BELGIANS AND

GERMANS, WHICH WILL COMPRISE THE BASIS OF DEMARCHES IN

ON JUNE 19, WITH THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR TAKING THE LEAD. THESE APPROACHES WILL BE AUGMENTED BY INDIVIDUAL COMMUNICATIONS -- INCLUDING YOUR LETTER -- TO MOBUTU FROM THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED, SPELLING OUT IN SOME- WHAT MORE DETAIL WHAT THEY EXPECT IN THE WAY OF REFORM.

WE ARE ALSO ENGAGED IN BROAD CONSULTATIONS WITH AFRICAN AND EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS, ON THE SECURITY OF SHABA. WE ARE EXPLORING HOW TO ENGAGE THE OAU AND ARE LOOKING FOR A PROCESS WHICH WOULD ENABLE SETTING A TARGET DATE FOR THE SUBSTITUTION OF TRAINED, DISCIPLINED ZAIRIAN TROOPS OR AN OAU FORCE FOR THE FRANCOPHONE AFRICAN
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UNITS NOW IN SHABA.

4. RHODESIA:

WE WILL REPORT ON RHODESIAN DEVELOPMENTS IN SEPARATE CABLE.

5. KENYA:

KENYAN MILITARY SURVEY TEAM REPORT IS NOW ON ITS WAY THROUGH CHANNELS TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND WE HOPE TO DELIVERY IT TO THE KENYANS BEFORE THE END OF THE MONTH. FINANCING QUESTION REMAINS UNRESOLVED.
CHRISTOPHER

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